

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stefan Kiefer, et al.

Art Unit : 3625

Serial No. : 10/695,621

Examiner : Mark A. Fadok

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Title : COMPLEX PRICES IN BIDDING

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

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AFTER FINAL AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF JULY 2, 2010

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

*The Amendment received on 9/2/2010 13  
Harby Entered 09-5-10*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EFS-WEB FILING

I hereby certify that this paper was filed with the Patent and Trademark Office using the EFS-WEB system on this date: September 2, 2010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method of managing bid pricing information, comprising:

- receiving at a computer system transaction information and item data from a buyer,
- generating with the computer system a bid invitation containing entries relating to the transaction information and item data, and making the bid invitation available to a plurality of potential bidders;

- receiving, at the computer system, from one or more of the potential bidders bid responses containing a complex pricing structure and corresponding complex pricing amounts, wherein the complex pricing structure is selected by the potential bidders from among a group of multiple pricing structures made available to the potential bidders, and

- wherein the complex pricing structure is selected and supplied by each potential bidder, and the complex pricing structures supplied by two or more potential bidders include bids with multiple different pricing amounts, and each bidder provides multiple different proposals with each proposal including a set of terms governing the proposal and a set of prices for the proposal; and

- selecting a winning bidder based at least in part on the complex pricing amounts.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein a complex pricing structure from a first bidder is made available for review by other potential bidders.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein complex pricing amounts from a first bidder are made available for review by other potential bidders.
16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising generating a summary of pricing terms from bids received from among the plurality of potential bidders.
17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising scoring the bids according to a predetermined scoring standard.
18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, further comprising selecting the highest scoring bidder as a winning bidder.
19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising forming a contract including pricing information related to pricing structure and pricing amounts submitted by a winning bidder.
20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the complex pricing structure comprises location-specific pricing information.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the complex pricing structure comprises date-based pricing information.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the bid response from a first bidder of the plurality of bidders contains multiple bid prices for a particular item, with each bid price being associated with different terms identified and specified by the bidder.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising providing the different bid terms from the first bidder, but not the bid prices, to the plurality of bidders other than the first bidder, and seeking bid prices from the plurality of bidders other than the first bidder for the different bid terms.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the different terms and the bid prices correspond to geographic location-specific information.
25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the multiple different pricing amounts comprise multiple prices from a particular bidder for a particular bid item.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising aggregating bids received from the plurality of bidders when a bidding period has ended.
27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising normalizing prices of the aggregated bids to permit comparison among differing bids.
- 28-31. (Canceled).